

CLAIMS

1. An electrical connector disposed in use between a store and an aircraft or dispenser, a first half of the connector being mechanically connected to one of the store or the aircraft/dispenser, and a second, complementary half of the connector being connected to an electrical cable attached to the other of the store or the aircraft/dispenser, the connector second half comprising a core containing electrical contacts and an outer shell snap-engageable with the first connector half to securely retain the connector second half in mating engagement with the connector first half while the store is being carried by the aircraft/dispenser, the outer shell being pulled off the connector first half as the store is separated from the aircraft/dispenser, the outer shell being formed as a separate component or assembly, removably attached to the connector second half core.

2. An electrical connector as defined in claim 1 in which the snap-engagement is provided by a resilient finger extending axially between the first and second connector halves, the finger being attached to one of the connector halves and engageable with a detent provided on the other connector half.

3. An electrical connector as defined in claim 2 in which the finger is attached to a ring mounted on a sleeve comprising the outer shell.

4. An electrical connector as defined in claim 2 in which the detent is a circumferential rib formed on a collar connected to the connector first half.

5. An electrical connector as defined in claim 1 in which the outer shell comprises an attachment ring rotatable about the second connector half and to which ends of a lanyard are anchored.

6. An electrical connector as defined in claim 1 in which the outer shell is held on the connector second half core by a threaded clamping ring.

7. An electrical connector as defined in claim 1 in which the outer shell is provided with EMC shielding.